

## **GULF WAR ERA**

- ➤ **Defined:** A term developed for the purposes of VA's Gulf War reporting initiative which represents a period of time synonymous with the Persian Gulf War period of service.
- Persian Gulf War: A period of war defined by Title 38, CFR, Section 3.2(i) based upon active military service from August 2, 1990, through date to be prescribed by Presidential proclamation or law.
- > Two distinct periods: Pre-9/11 and Post-9/11
  - Pre-9/11 (August 2, 1990 to September 10, 2001)
  - Post-9/11 (September 11, 2001 through date to be prescribed by Presidential proclamation or law

## **INSIGHT**

**Purpose**: To provide comprehensive statistics on the utilization of VA benefits and healthcare services by Gulf War Era Veterans

**Objective**: To report meaningful and accurate integrated data regarding the utilization of VA benefits and healthcare services by Gulf War Era Veterans

3

### REDESIGNED APPROACH

#### Characteristics

- · Data: Accurate, consistent, and meaningful
- Report: Integrated; scalable; recurring; and veteran-centric

### > Utilization of a multi-disciplinary Integrated Project Team (IPT)

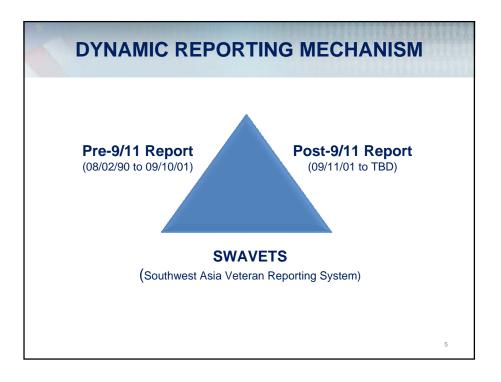
- Effort led by OPP; staffed by multiple VA organizations
- Multiple program areas involved: benefits, healthcare, policy, data etc.
- · Combat Gulf War veteran membership

### > Establishment of a new data structure

- · Deployment, operation, and exposure-based data buckets
- Gulf War phases: Deployment, Combat Operations, Stabilization

#### > Development of a new data system

- · Enhances statistical linkages between VA and DoD data
- Diagnostic codes (benefits) and ICD-9 codes (health)

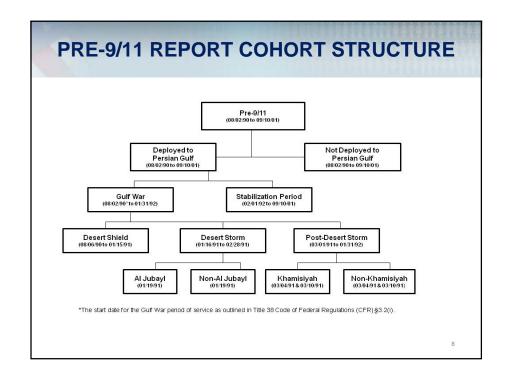


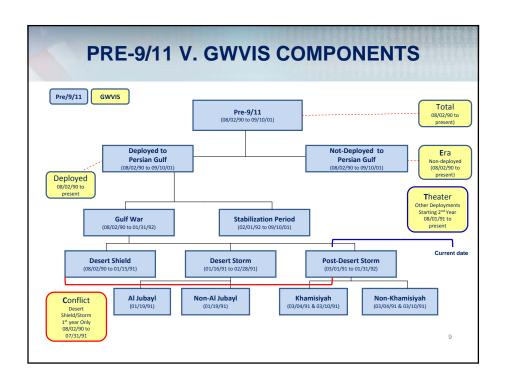
## TYPICAL PROCESSING STEPS FOR INITIAL REPORTS

- > Convene IPT eight months in advance
- > Concurrently develop front-end tasks
  - Draft report framework and text
  - · Build data component in SWAVETS
    - Code/program/execute VA and DoD data runs for record-level data
    - Develop VA and DoD person tables; integrate tables
- > Generate aggregated statistics and build tables
- Compose draft final report
- > Secure organizational concurrences
- > Develop and release initial reports
  - Pre-9/11 Report (Feb 2011)
  - Post-9/11 Report (approx. Feb 2012)

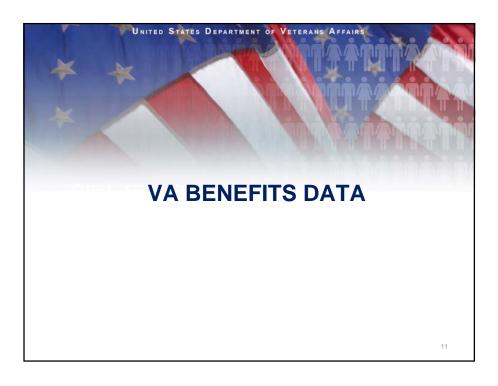
### **DoD PRE-9/11 POPULATION DATA**

- > 6.5 million on active duty from 8/2/90 to 9/10/01
- > 1.1 million deployed to Persian Gulf region
- > 763,337 participated in one or more of the following:
  - Operation Desert Shield (529K)
  - Operation Desert Storm (581K)
  - Post-Desert Storm (679K)
- > Exposure Events:
  - Al Jubayl, Saudi Arabia (1,334 personnel during Desert Storm)
  - Khamisiyah, Iraq (145,456 personnel during Post-Desert Storm)



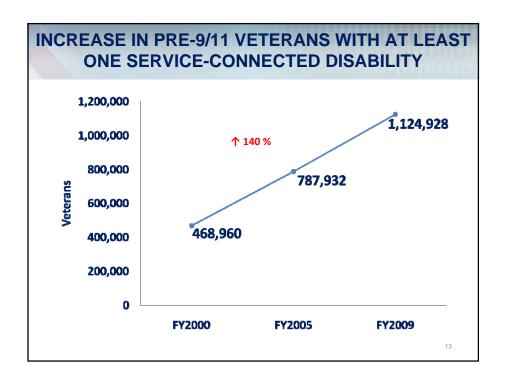


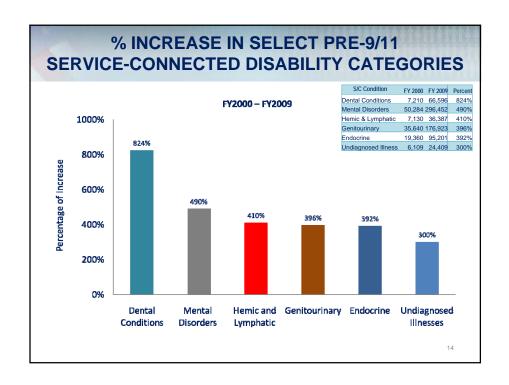
PRE-9/11 GULF WAR ERA COHORT OVERLAP				
	DESERT	DESERT	POST-DESERT	STABILIZATION
	SHIELD	STORM	STORM	PERIOD
	(08/02/90 to	(01/16/91 to	(03/01/91 to	(02/01/92 to
	01/15/91)	02/28/91)	01/31/92)	09/10/01)
DMDC Totals	529,034	581,683	679,244	492,611
Desert Shield Personnel	529,034	488,191	454,213	44,190
	100%	84%	67%	9%
Desert Storm Personnel		581,683	543,398	50,600
		100%	80%	10%
Post-Desert Storm Personnel			679,244	126,428
			100%	26%

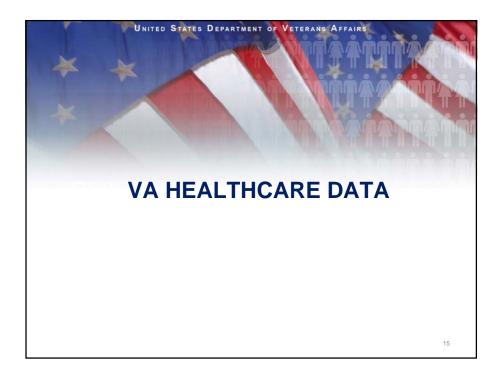


### **VA BENEFITS DATA**

- ➤ 17 percent of all Pre-9/11 Veterans were serviceconnected for at least one condition in FY2009.
- ➤ For Pre-9/11 Veterans receiving compensation benefits, the 80 percent and 90 percent combined disability evaluations incurred the highest increases between FY2000 and FY2009.
- ➤ Less than one percent of the living Pre-9/11 Veterans were drawing NSC pension benefits in FY2009.

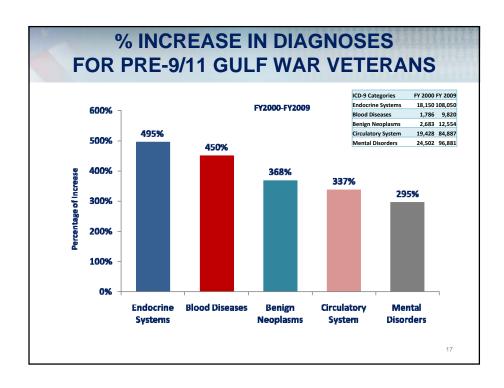


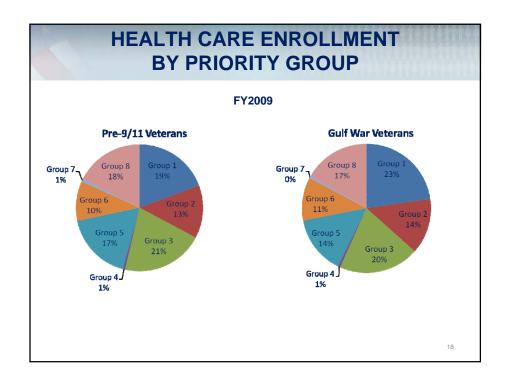




### **VA HEALTHCARE DATA**

- ➤ The number of Pre-9/11 Veterans seeking inpatient and outpatient healthcare treatment and associated encounters soared from FY2000 to FY2009.
- ➤ As of FY2009, over 30 percent of all Pre-9/11 Veterans were identified in one of VA's healthcare enrollment priority groups.
- ➤ There was a 209 percent increase in Pre-9/11 Veterans' enrollment and a 318 percent increase in associated encounters between FY2000 and FY2009.

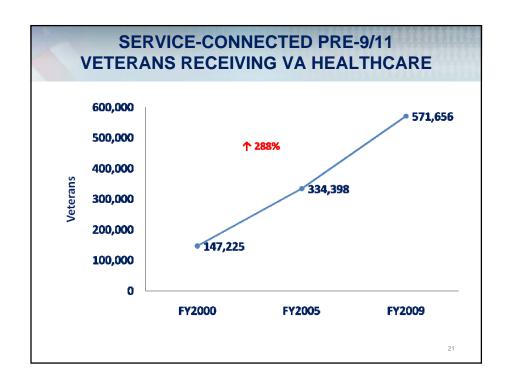


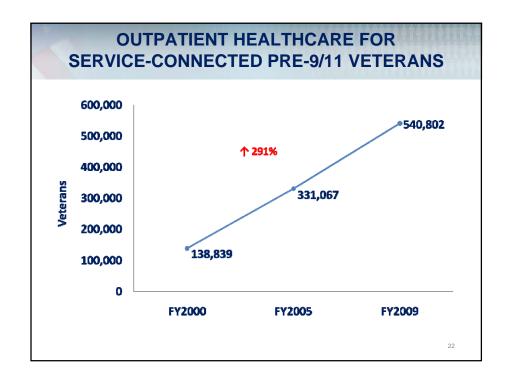


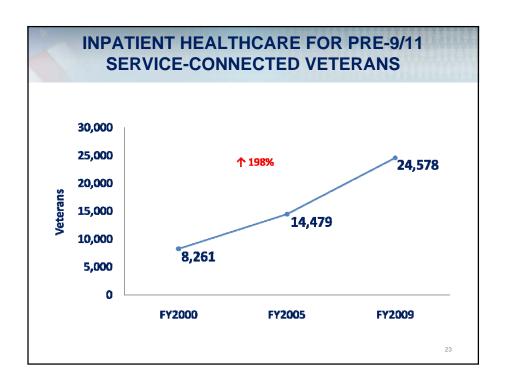


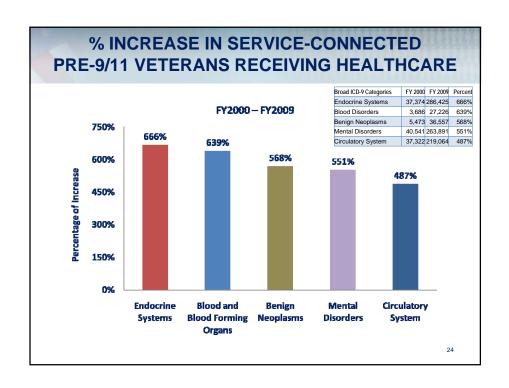
# INTEGRATED BENEFITS AND HEALTHCARE SERVICES DATA

- ➤ Between FY2000 and FY2009, the number of serviceconnected Pre-9/11 Veterans receiving healthcare increased nearly threefold.
- ➤ There was a 79 percent increase in the overall average of unique Pre-9/11 Veteran healthcare encounters from FY2000 to FY2009 for all healthcare categories.
- ➤ Of the Pre-9/11 service-connected Veterans who received healthcare treatment in FY2009, 17 percent were female and 83 percent were male.









## THE WAY AHEAD

- > Pre-9/11 Report (08/02/1990 to 09/10/2001)
  - Initial report released February 2011
  - Updated annual reports to follow
- > Post-9/11 Report (09/11/2001 to TBD)
  - Initial report due approximately February 2012
  - Addresses major operations to include Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, and Noble Eagle
  - Key exposure events
- > Southwest Asia Veterans System (SWAVETS)
  - ❖ Post-9/11 data to be added to existing Pre-9/11 data
  - Integrated reporting (benefits, healthcare, DoD)
  - Data for additional reporting needs

